

**eHealth Care Quality and Patient Safety Board: Proposed Charter**  
**March 2, 2006**

**1. Purpose**

The eHealth Care Quality and Patient Safety Board will develop recommendations for a Wisconsin eHealth information infrastructure, and foster its implementation.

**2. Vision**

No patient should ever be harmed because a provider could not access information that is known.

Wisconsin will actively foster statewide use of health information technology to improve health care quality, increase patient safety, promote prevention, reduce health care costs and enable individual consumers to participate effectively in their health care decisions.

Health information will be available at the point of care for patients, with electronic health records and decision support systems for evidence based medicine deployed in all medical care settings in the state.

An infrastructure will be developed that allows for the timely, accurate and appropriate exchange of data to improve health care across medical care settings, and to improve population health. It will include appropriate policies and controls to protect patient privacy and assure information security, to promote wellness and to prevent avoidable diseases and conditions.

The State's health information infrastructure will be consistent with the emerging national Framework for Strategic Action including its goals to inform clinicians, interconnect clinicians, personalize care, and improve population health.

**3. Authority**

The Board was created in November 2005 by Executive Order #129, as provided by the Constitution and Laws of this state, specifically Wisconsin Statute §14.019. It will be governed by Wisconsin Statutes §15.07.

**4. Functions**

The Board will develop the "Wisconsin Action Plan for Health Care Quality and Safety." This five year plan will guide state government's legislative and regulatory actions, encourage coordinated efforts in the private healthcare sector, further public and private partnerships for the development of a statewide eHealth information infrastructure, and maximize federal financial participation to support early adoption of the eHealth information infrastructure. The Board will also:

- a. Identify existing ehealth resources, including funding sources to support the development of statewide ehealth information infrastructure; and

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- b. Identify technology options, and their advantages and disadvantages, for a statewide ehealth information infrastructure; and
- c. Identify options for serving consumer health information needs; and
- d. Assure information privacy and security in electronic information exchange; and
- e. Facilitate adoption of standards to enable health information exchanges; and
- f. Create organization and governance structures for a statewide ehealth information infrastructure; and
- g. Annually assess progress and make recommendations to the Governor.

**5. Membership and Staffing Responsibilities**

The Board membership is appointed by the governor. A membership list is attached. The Governor has appointed Helene Nelson, Secretary of the Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS) as chair. Susan Wood of DHFS will serve as Staff Director to the board.

The Chair may establish committees, in consultation with the Board.

**6. Meetings**

Business will be conducted in meetings, conference calls and using e-mail. The 2006 meeting schedule is attached, subject to modification by the Chair. All Board meetings are open to the public under Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law. The Board will identify additional ways to engage a wide range of stakeholders in developing its recommendations and to actively foster their implementation through voluntary public-private partnerships.

Agendas will be established by the Chair in consultation with the Board. Summary minutes will be provided for all formal meetings. All materials developed for the board and minutes of meetings will be published to a web site operated by DHFS.

**7. Reporting requirements**

The Board will recommend the "*Wisconsin Action Plan for Health Care Quality and Safety*" to the Governor by January 1, 2007. The Board will also make an annual report to the Governor on its plans, activities, accomplishments, and recommendations.